

ND-US040291



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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	
Yoshito OKU et al.	:	Patent Art Unit: to be assigned
Serial No.: 10/708,758	:	Examiner: to be assigned
Filed: March 24, 2004	:	
For: HYDRODYNAMIC BEARING, SPINDLE	:	
MOTOR USING THE SAME AND DISC	:	
DRIVE APPARATUS PROVIDED WITH	:	
SPINDLE MOTOR	:	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

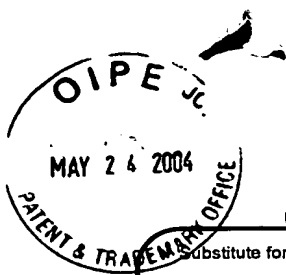
In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring the attached references to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. A machine translation of the Japanese language references provided by the Japanese Patent Office is also attached hereto, as well as a completed PTO-1449 form. Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Roberts
Attorney of Record
Reg. No. 39,346

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Dated: May 21, 2004



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/708,858
Filing Date	March 24, 2004
First Named Inventor	Yoshito OKU et al.
Group Art Unit	to be assigned
Examiner Name	to be assigned
Attorney Docket Number	ND-US040291

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	US- 2002/0130571	09-19-2002	Kodama	
		US-			
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	1	JP-A-H10-073126	03-17-1998	Sankyo Seiki MFG Co., Ltd.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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¹ EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

² Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³ See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.
⁴ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁷ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.